

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A multilayer mat comprising:

an intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends, a first major surface and a second major surface opposite the first major surface, said intumescent layer having an area A1;

a first non-intumescent layer facing the first major surface of said intumescent layer, said first non-intumescent layer comprising inorganic fibers and said first non-intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends, and an area A2 that is greater than area A1, wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a major surface facing said intumescent layer with a first trough in said major surface, and wherein said intumescent layer is positioned in said first trough; and

a second non-intumescent layer facing the second major surface of said intumescent layer, said second non-intumescent layer comprising inorganic fibers and said second non-intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends, and an area A3 that is greater than area A1.

wherein said intumescent layer is sandwiched between said first and second non-intumescent layers and positioned entirely within the area A2 of said first non-intumescent layer and the area A3 of said second non-intumescent layer, with at least one of the outer edges of said mat being free of intumescent material.

31. (Canceled)

32. The multilayer mat of claim 30, wherein area A2 is substantially equal to area A3 and said first non-intumescent layer is aligned with said second non-intumescent layer.

33. (Previously Presented) The multilayer mat of claim 30, wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a length L2 and said second non-intumescent layer has a length

substantially equal to length L2 and wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a width W2 and said second non-intumescent layer has a width substantially equal to width W2.

34. (Previously Presented) The multilayer mat of claim 30, wherein said first non-intumescent layer contacts said second non-intumescent layer along at least one edge of the mat.

35. (Previously Presented) The multilayer mat of claim 30, wherein said intumescent layer is divided into at least two segments that are separated from each other.

36. (Previously Presented) The multilayer mat of claim 30, wherein said intumescent layer has a thickness that is 5 to 25 percent of a total mat thickness.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) The multilayer mat of claim 30 ~~[[37]]~~, wherein said second non-intumescent layer has a major surface ~~[[second trough on a side]]~~ facing said intumescent layer with a ~~[[, the]]~~ second trough in said major surface ~~[[is]]~~ aligned with the first trough, and wherein said intumescent layer is positioned in the first and the second trough.

39. (Previously Presented) The multilayer mat of claim 33, wherein said intumescent layer has a width W1 that is less than W2, said intumescent layer has a length L1 that is substantially equal to L2, and said second non-intumescent layer contacts said first non-intumescent layer along at least one edge of said multilayer mat.

40. (Previously Presented) The multilayer mat of claim 30, wherein said multilayer mat is free of intumescent material along at least one lateral outer edge of said multilayer mat.

41. (Currently Amended) A pollution control device comprising:
an outer housing having an interior major surface;
a pollution control element; and

a multilayer mounting mat [[according to claim 30]] positioned between said pollution control element and said outer housing, wherein the multilayer mat comprises:

an intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends, a first major surface and a second major surface opposite the first major surface, said intumescent layer having an area A1;

a first non-intumescent layer facing the first major surface of said intumescent layer, said first non-intumescent layer comprising inorganic fibers and said first non-intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends, and an area A2 that is greater than area A1; and

a second non-intumescent layer facing the second major surface of said intumescent layer, said second non-intumescent layer comprising inorganic fibers and said second non-intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends, and an area A3 that is greater than area A1,

wherein said intumescent layer is sandwiched between said first and second non-intumescent layers and positioned entirely within the area A2 of said first non-intumescent layer and the area A3 of said second non-intumescent layer, with at least one of the outer edges of said mat being free of intumescent material, and

wherein one of the first or second non-intumescent layers has a major surface in contact with the internal major surface of the housing.

42. (Previously Presented) The pollution control device of claim 41, wherein said multilayer mat is free of intumescent material along at least one lateral outer edge of said multilayer mat.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) The pollution control device of claim 41, wherein area A2 is substantially equal to area A3 and said first non-intumescent layer is aligned with said second non-intumescent layer.

45. (Previously Presented) The pollution control device of claim 41, wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a length L2 and said second non-intumescent layer has a length

substantially equal to length L2 and wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a width W2 and said second non-intumescent layer has a width substantially equal to width W2.

46. (Previously Presented) The pollution control device of claim 41, wherein said first non-intumescent layer contacts said second non-intumescent layer along at least one edge of said mat, said at least one edge being positioned at a gas inlet side of said pollution control device.

47. (Previously Presented) The pollution control device of claim 41, wherein said intumescent layer is divided into at least two segments that are separated from each other.

48. (Previously Presented) The pollution control device of claim 47, wherein said pollution control element has an elliptical cross-section and the segments of said intumescent layer are positioned over portions of said pollution control element with a smaller radius of curvature.

49. (Previously Presented) The pollution control device of claim 45, wherein said intumescent layer has a length W1 that is less than W2, said intumescent layer has a length L1 that is substantially equal to L2, and said second non-intumescent layer contacts said first non-intumescent layer along at least one edge of said multilayer mat.

50. (Withdrawn; Previously Presented) A method of forming the multilayer mat of claim 30, said method comprising:
providing an intumescent layer having a first major surface and a second major surface opposite said first major surface, said intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends and an area A1;
positioning a first non-intumescent layer facing the first major surface of said intumescent layer, said first non-intumescent layer comprising inorganic fibers and having opposite outer edges, opposite ends and an area A2 that is greater than area A1; and
positioning a second non-intumescent layer facing the second major surface of said intumescent layer, said second non-intumescent layer being aligned with said first non-intumescent layer and

comprising inorganic fibers, said second non-intumescent layer having opposite outer edges, opposite ends and an area A3 that is greater than area A1, wherein said intumescent layer is sandwiched between said first and second non-intumescent layers and positioned entirely within the area A2 of said first non-intumescent layer and the area A3 of said second non-intumescent layer, with at least one of the outer edges of said mat being free of intumescent material, and wherein said forming comprises molding to prepare a first non-intumescent layer having a major surface facing said intumescent layer with a first trough in said major surface, and wherein the method includes positioning said intumescent layer in said first trough.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Withdrawn; Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein area A2 is substantially equal to area A3 and said first non-intumescent layer is aligned with said second non-intumescent layer.

53. (Withdrawn; Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a length L2 and said second non-intumescent layer has a length substantially equal to length L2 and wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a width W2 and said second non-intumescent layer has a width substantially equal to width W2.

54. (Canceled)

55. (Withdrawn; Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein said intumescent layer has a thickness that is 5 to 25 percent of a total mat thickness.

56. (Withdrawn; Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein said positioning comprises preparing an intumescent layer having at least two segments and separating the segments.

57. (Withdrawn; Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein said intumescent layer has a width W1 that is less than W2, said intumescent layer has a length L1 is substantially equal to L2, and said multilayer mat is free of intumescent material along at least one edge of said multilayer mat.

58. (Withdrawn; Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, said method further comprising cutting said multilayer mat to a size suitable for use as a mounting mat in a pollution control device.

59. (New) The pollution control device of claim 41, wherein said first non-intumescent layer has a major surface facing said intumescent layer with a first trough in said major surface, and wherein said intumescent layer is positioned in said first trough.

60. (New) The pollution control device of claim 59, wherein said second non-intumescent layer has a major surface facing said intumescent layer with a second trough in said major surface aligned with the first trough, and wherein said intumescent layer is positioned in the first and the second trough.